



12/19/00 Fall from Elevation

A 32-year-old construction worker was killed when he stepped into an unprotected floor opening, and fell 10 feet to the concrete basement floor below.

The Construction Company was building chicken pens at a farm in Eastern Washington. The victim had been working for the Construction Company for about one week. He and other workers were setting up chicken pens on the first floor of a building, which is about 10.5 feet above the basement floor. The victim was walking on the first floor and fell through a 36" x 42" opening to the cement floor below.

The victim sustained severe head injuries and was transported to the Hospital. He died four days later from these with severe head injuries.

Question to ask?

- Are all floor, wall and stairway openings protected from accidental falls?
- Are regular inspections of the construction site made and hazards corrected?

WAC 296-155 Part K (Construction) 296-24 Part J-1 (General Industry).